

HOUSE BILL NO. 57

INTRODUCED BY E. FRANKLIN

BY REQUEST OF THE CHILDREN, FAMILIES, HEALTH, AND HUMAN SERVICES INTERIM COMMITTEE

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REQUIRING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES TO PURCHASE LIABILITY INSURANCE FOR FOSTER PARENTS PROVIDING FOSTER CARE OR THERAPEUTIC FOSTER CARE FOR A YOUTH UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE PLACED BY A STATE AGENCY; PROVIDING AN APPROPRIATION; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

**NEW SECTION. Section 1. Liability insurance for foster parents.** (1) The department shall provide for ~~personal injury LIABILITY~~ and property damage insurance for a foster parent ~~under the supervision of PROVIDING FOSTER CARE SERVICES TO CHILDREN PLACED BY the department of~~ AND FOR a foster parent providing therapeutic foster care services under the auspices of a licensed child-placing agency. ~~for youth under 18 years of age who are placed with a foster parent by a state agency.~~

(2) The state shall pay the cost of the premium for each policy issued under subsection (1). The foster parent may be required, as provided by rule, to pay a reasonable deductible for personal injury or property damage.

(3) The department shall adopt rules for the provision of insurance coverage to foster parents as provided in this section, including rules on premium payment and any deductibles required.

**NEW SECTION. Section 2. Appropriation.** There is appropriated to the department of public health and human services \$70,000 from the general fund for each fiscal year 2008 and 2009 for the purposes of purchasing liability coverage for foster parents as provided in [section 1].

**NEW SECTION. Section 3. Codification instruction.** [Section 1] is intended to be codified as an integral part of Title 41, chapter 3, part 1, and the provisions of Title 41, chapter 3, part 1, apply to [section 1].

**NEW SECTION. Section 4. Effective date.** [This act] is effective July 1, 2007.

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